

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A modular direct oxidation fuel cell array, comprising:
 - 2 a plurality of individual direct oxidation fuel cells, each fuel cell having a
 - 3 membrane electrode assembly and an anode current collector and a cathode current
 - 4 collector, each fuel cell having a first electrical coupling component disposed thereon and
 - 5 a second electrical coupling component disposed in a different location on said fuel cell,
 - 6 which second component corresponds with a first component of an adjacent cell to
 - 7 electrically and/or mechanically couple the cells together, to form a modular fuel cell
 - 8 array, wherein each fuel cell is separately manufactured prior to coupling and functions
 - 9 as a stand alone fuel cell.
- 1 2. (Original) The modular direct oxidation fuel cell array as defined in claim 1 wherein
2 said first electrical coupling component is a plug member, and said second electrical
3 coupling component is a socket wherein adjacent fuel cells are connected by a plug-and-
4 socket configuration.
- 1 3. – 5. (Cancelled)
- 1 6. (Currently Amended) A modular direct oxidation fuel cell array, comprising:
 - 2 a plurality of individual direct oxidation fuel cells, wherein each fuel cell
 - 3 is separately manufactured prior to coupling and functions as a stand alone fuel cell, each
 - 4 fuel cell having:
 - 5 (i) a membrane electrode assembly and an anode current collector and
 - 6 a cathode current collector;
 - 7 (ii) a mechanical coupling assembly including a first mechanical
 - 8 coupling component disposed thereon, and a corresponding second
 - 9 mechanical coupling component disposed at another location,
 - 10 which second mechanical coupling component corresponds with a

11 first component of an adjacent cell to fasten the fuel cell to an
12 adjacent fuel cell; and
13 (iii) an electrical connection between each of said plurality of fuel cells,
14 to form a modular fuel cell array.

1 7. - 17.(Cancelled)

1 18. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a modular direct oxidation fuel cell
2 array, comprising:

3 manufacturing a plurality of individual fuel cells, wherein each fuel cell is
4 separately manufactured and functions as a stand alone fuel cell;
5 after completion of manufacturing, connecting said fuel cells together
6 electrically from the cathode of one cell to the anode of an adjacent cell;
7 and
8 mechanically securing the fuel cells together to form a fuel cell array.

1 19. – 20. (Cancelled)

1 21. (Currently Amended) A connection assembly for use with a modular fuel cell array,
2 comprising:

3 an electrical connection assembly having a first element disposed on a first fuel
4 cell, and an second element disposed on an adjacent fuel cell to electrically couple said
5 fuel cells together, wherein each fuel cell is separately manufactured prior to coupling
6 and functions as a stand alone fuel cell.

1 22. (Currently Amended) The connection assembly as defined in claim 21 further
2 comprising:
3 a mechanical connection assembly having a first element disposed on a first fuel
4 cell, and an second element disposed on an adjacent fuel cell to mechanically couple said

5 | fuel cells together, wherein each fuel cell is separately manufactured prior to coupling
6 | and functions as a stand alone fuel cell.

1 23. (New) The modular direct oxidation fuel cell array as defined in claim 1, wherein
2 each fuel cell tested prior to connecting to the adjacent fuel cell.

1 24. (New) The modular direct oxidation fuel cell array as defined in claim 1, wherein an
2 amount of fuel cells in the fuel cell array is adjustable post manufacturing.